5

## WE CLAIM:

- 1. A sensor configured to determine a parameter of a flow of respiratory gas comprising: a temperature transducer, configured for positioning adjacent said flow of gas,
- a sensor housing configured to house said transducer and provide a substantial pathogen barrier to said flow of gas: and
  - a conductive path between said transducer and said flow of gas.
- 2. A sensor according to claim 1 wherein said sensor housing has a locator to ensure said transducer is correctly positioned and/or aligned.
- A sensor according to anyone of claims 1 or 2 wherein said sensor housing is integrally
  moulded in a gases conduit for conveying said flow of gas.
  - 4. A sensor according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein said conductive path has a thermally conductive probe.
  - 5. A sensor according to any of claims 1 to 4 wherein said conductive path crosses said flow of gas.
- 15 6. A sensor according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein said conductive path is a band that said flow of gas flows within.
  - 7. A sensor according to claim 3 wherein said sensor housing is combined with an engagement for an electrical connection.
- 8. A sensor according to claim 7 wherein said engagement for an electrical connection comprises an electrical contact adapted to energise a heater wire for heating said conduit or the interior thereof.
  - 9. A sensor according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein said sensor housing means has longitudinal axis substantially perpendicular to said flow of gas.
  - 10. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gas comprising:
- 25 a conduit adapted to convey said flow of gases,
  - a thermally conductive member extending from the interior of said conduit in contact with said flow of gas to the exterior of said conduit, and
  - an external engagement for a temperature sensor engaging said member which does not protrude into said conduit.
- 30 11. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gas according to claim 10 wherein said engagement for a temperature sensor is adapted to ensure intimate contact of said exterior portion

5

of said thermally conductive member and a temperature sensor.

- 12. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gas according to claims 10 or 11 wherein said thermally conductive member comprises a thermally conductive housing.
- 13. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gas according to claims 10 or 11 wherein said thermally conductive member comprises a thermally conductive probe.
  - 14. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gases according to claims 10 to 13 wherein said thermally conductive member comprises a conductive path that crosses the entire interior of said conduit.
  - 15. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gases according to any one of claims 10 to 13 wherein said thermal conductive member compared to the said thermal conductive members are said the s
- 13 wherein said thermal conductive member comprises a conductive band within the circumference of said conduit.
  - 16. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gases according to any one of claims 10 to 15 wherein said engagement for a temperature sensor is combined with an engagement for an electrical connection.
- 15 17. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gases according to any one of claims 11 to 16 further comprising a temperature sensor housed within a sensor housing.
  - 18. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gases according to claims 17 wherein said sensor housing is combined with an engagement for an electrical connection.
- 19. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gases according to claims 17 or 18 wherein
  20 said sensor housing means has longitudinal axis substantially perpendicular to said flow of gases.
  - 20. A sensor as herein described with reference to the accompanying figures.
  - 21. A system for conveying a flow of respiratory gases as herein described with reference to the accompanying figures.